

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 234
By Borchert

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Joyce Darlene Gregory of Dover, and express our gratitude for her immeasurable service to the children and families of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely death on March 2, 2005, of Mrs. Joyce Darlene Gregory, who brought joy to the lives of so many in Stewart County; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of Adron "Bud" and Joyce Weaver Wyatt, she was employed by the Stewart County Board of Education as a Bus Driver and as a Teaching Assistant for Special Education students; and

WHEREAS, a revered member of the Dover and greater Stewart County community, Mrs. Gregory performed with great thoughtfulness and zeal as a teaching assistant in the special education classroom, earning the respect of her students, peers, and administrators alike for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Gregory was an active and devout member of Hurricane Creek Baptist Church, which she served faithfully for many years as a prayer counselor and as a Sunday School teacher; and

WHEREAS, as a valued member of the Dover community with an unfaltering interest in serving others, Mrs. Gregory was generous both in heart and in deed; in addition to the good works performed for her church and school families, she was also a Cub Scout den leader and loved gratifying others with her limitless generosity; and

WHEREAS, throughout our great state, word of her passing has touched many others who, like Joyce Gregory, have dedicated themselves to serving others and caring for children with a sincerity and tenderness that cannot be quelled; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of her genuine commitment to serving others, Mrs. Gregory's funeral service was attended by over one thousand people who either knew her, loved her, or were touched by her boundless heart and spirit; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Gregory was also deeply committed to, devoted to, and inspired by her adoring family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her parents, Mrs. Gregory leaves behind her loving husband, Gerald Gregory; she was the proud mother of a son, Cody Gregory; two daughters, Dana Gregory and Gwynn McGee; and the adoring grandmother of her precious granddaughter, Katie Beth McGee; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Gregory is also survived by many other beloved family members, including her brother, Dalton Wyatt; and her three sisters, Rita White, Sharon Bryant, and Rebecca Clairday; and

WHEREAS, Joyce Gregory, who held true to her philosophy of fully appreciating the blessings of this life, leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, she lived as a model for others in her commitment to God, to her family, and to the welfare of children; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being whose gentle smile and tender heart continue to touch her family, friends, and neighbors in the Stewart County community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Mrs. Joyce Darlene Gregory, devoted family woman, warden of children, and faithful servant of the Lord, reflecting fondly upon her life of dedication and service to her family and her community, and express our gratitude for all of the kindness, compassion, and care she showered on the children of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our deepest condolences to Mrs. Gregory's family and friends.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.